

Deforestation

- Deforestation is the clearing of Earth's forests on a massive scale. This often causes damage to the quality of the land. Forests still cover about 30 percent of the world's land area, but groups the size of Panama are lost every year.
- The world's rain forests will likely be gone in 100 years due to the current rate of deforestation.
- Deforestation happens for many reasons. Mostly because of financial or people's need to provide to their families. The biggest cause is agriculture. Farmers cut down trees to provide more room for their crops or livestock.
- Logging operations cut down many trees each year those companies also build roads to access more fresh land which leads to more deforestation. forests are also clear cut as a result of urban sprawl.
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- Some deforestation is caused by natural factors such as wildfires and subsequent overgrazing, which may lead to prevention of growing young forests

National Geographic

<http://environment.nationalgeographic.com/environment/global-warming/deforestation-overview/>

- Deforestation negative effects: A notable effect is the loss of species: seventy percent of the world's plants and animals live in forests and are losing their habitat due to deforestation. Loss of habitat can lead to species endangerment and extinction.
- Carbon emissions: healthy forests help absorb greenhouse gases and carbon emissions that are caused by human activity and contribute to global climate change. If there are no trees left, more carbon and greenhouse gases enter the atmosphere. Worse, trees become carbon sources when cut, burned, or removed.
- Soil erosion: without tree roots to anchor the soil and with increased exposure to sun, soil can dry out, leading to increased flooding and inability to farm. Cash crops planted after clear cutting or burning exacerbate soil erosion because the roots cannot hold on to the soil the way trees can.

Jessie Szalay, LiveScience contributor | March 06, 2014 04:20pm ET

<http://www.livescience.com/27692-deforestation.html>

- There will be an increase in CO₂ and a decrease in O₂ due to trees being cut.
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- Unprecedented floods and droughts will occur due to global warming.
- Ecological degradation due to breaking of the food chain as trees not only form the basement of the food chain but also home to various life forms that form middle levels in the chain.
- Less wood for building purposes due to more trees being chopped.
- More soil erosion because there will be no tree roots to anchor the soil.
- The water cycle is affected by deforestation. Trees extract groundwater through their roots and release it into the atmosphere. When part of the forest is removed, the region cannot hold as much water and there will be a dryer climate.

<https://in.answers.yahoo.com/question/index?qid=20080606083732AArJdlg>



